

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON**

**RESTRICTED**

January 6, 1950

**TO THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ESTABLISHMENTS**

**SUBJECT: Avoidance of Publicity Concerning the Intelligence Agencies  
of the U. S. Government**

The National Security Council, pursuant to the provisions of Sections 101 and 102 of the National Security Act of 1947 as amended, has this date taken the following action with respect to the above subject and has agreed that it should be communicated as an expression of policy to all executive departments and establishments.

The National Security Council considers that any publicity, factual or fictional, concerning intelligence is potentially detrimental to the effectiveness of an intelligence activity and to the national security. The Council has therefore authorized and directed the departments and agencies represented by membership on the Intelligence Advisory Committee\* to take steps to prevent the unauthorized disclosure for written or oral publication of any information concerning intelligence or intelligence activities. The head of each of these departments and agencies will determine his channel for granting such authorization as may be necessary.

**SIDNEY W. SOUERS  
Executive Secretary**

\*The Departments of State, Defense (the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff), Justice, the Atomic Energy Commission and the Central Intelligence Agency.

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